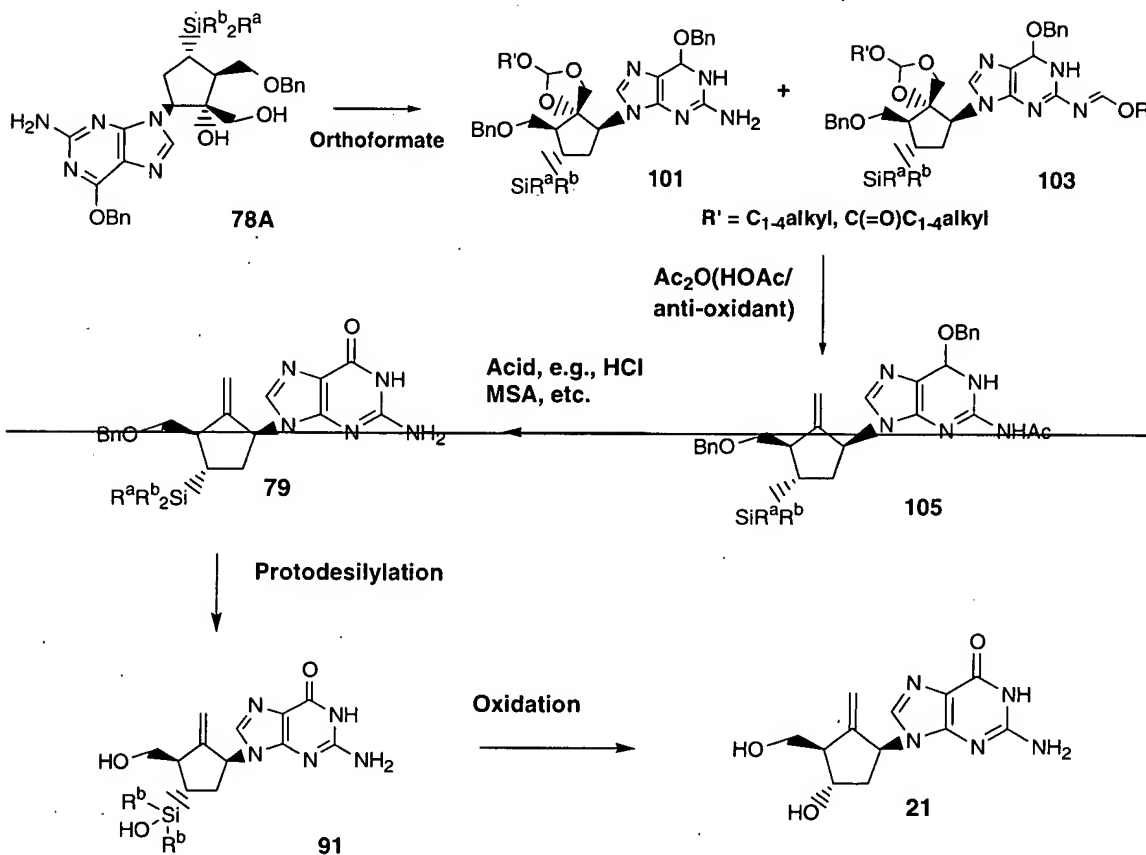


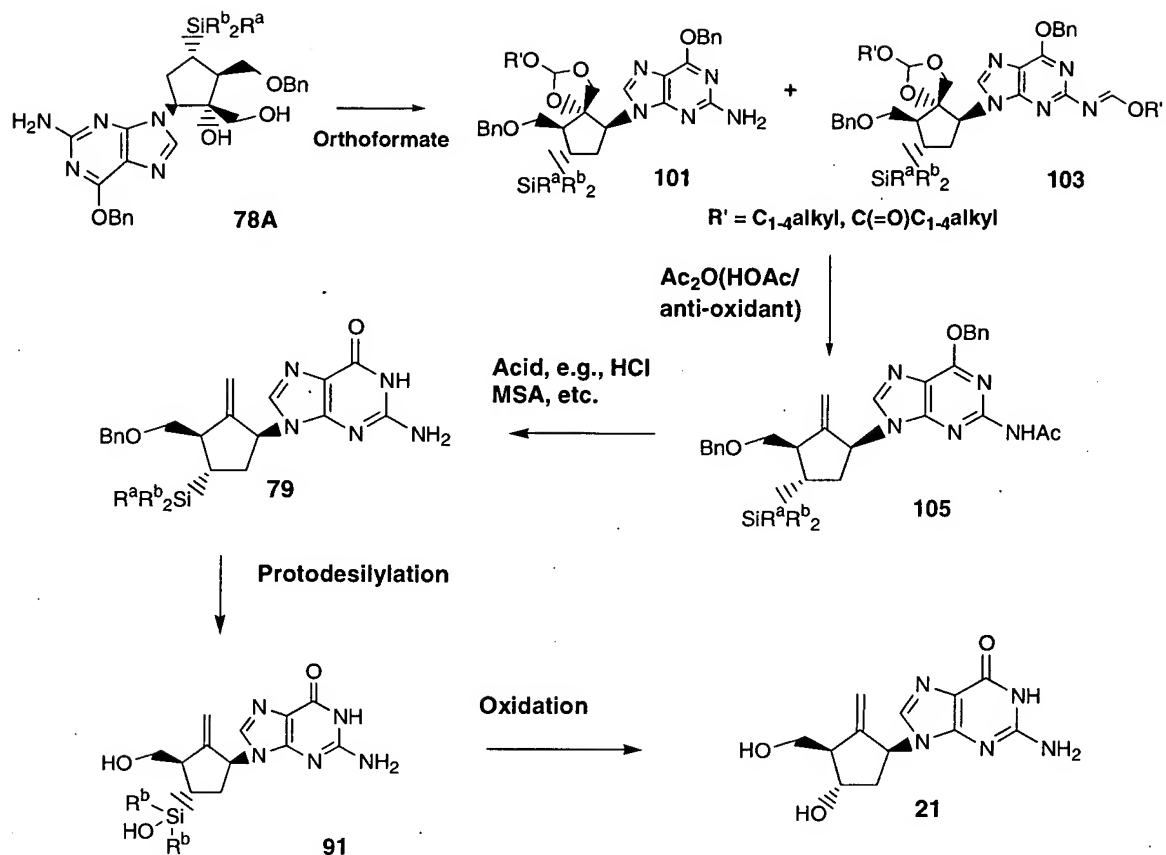
AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

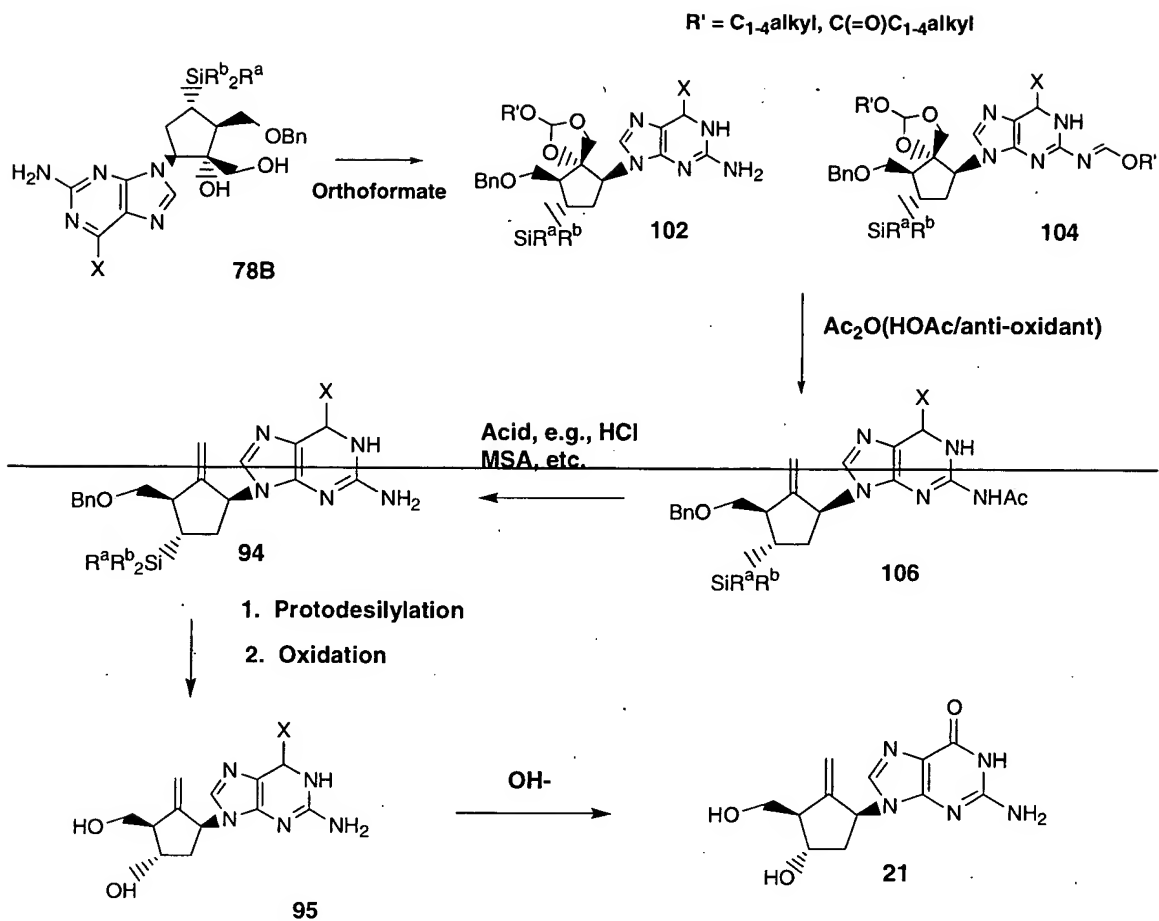
Please amend line 5 on page 15 as follows:
 effected with a ~~pera~~ per acid or with a ~~pera~~ per homochiral diester of tartaric acid, a

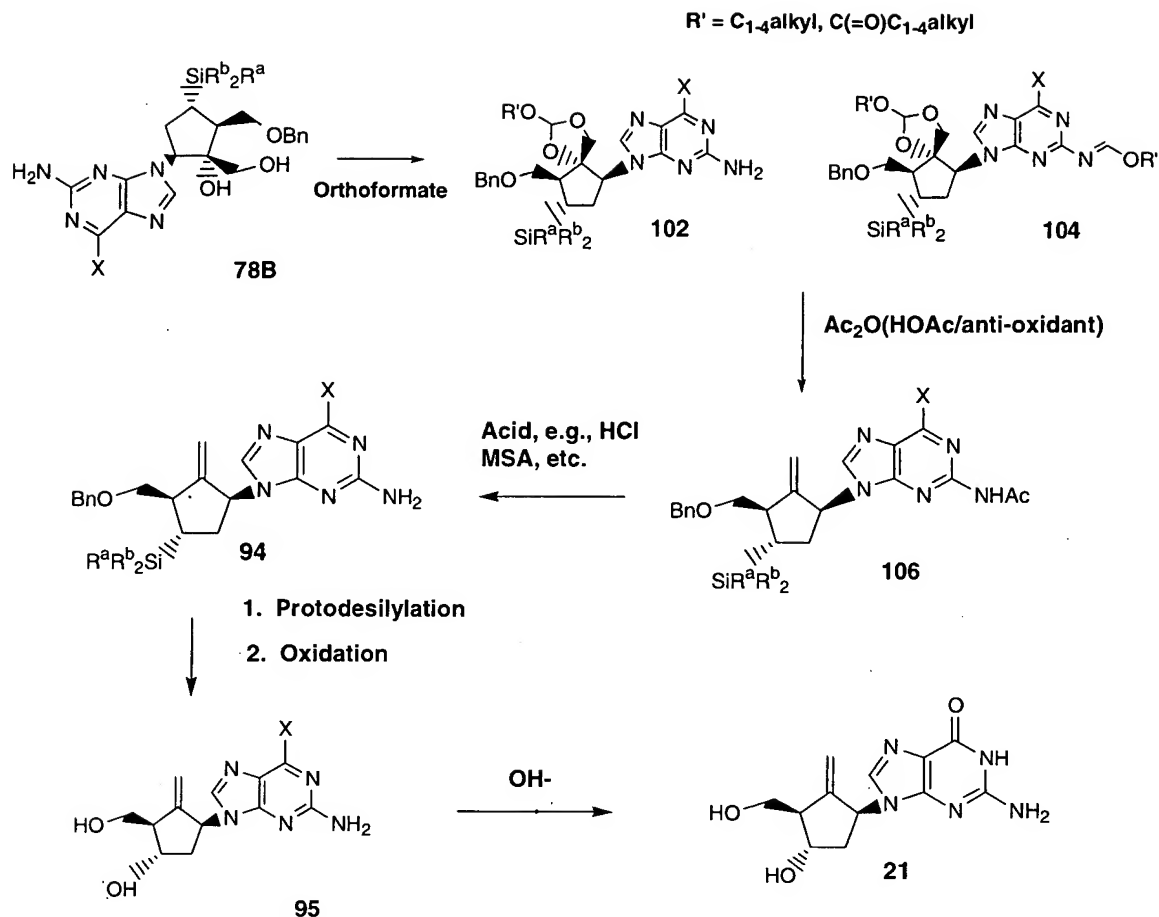
Please amend SCHEME 4 on page 20 as follows:





Please amend SCHEME 5 on page 22 as follows:





Please amend line 21 on page 28 as follows:

ether protecting group(s) on the cyclopentane ring[[, such as]] by boron trichloride

Please amend line 16 on page 32 as follows:

(where R[["]] is benzyl). One embodiment of Process E(c) is depicted in **Scheme 11**. A

Please amend line 19 on page 51 as follows:

resulting dark oil was further dried under high vacuum to give 185 g of the racemic title

Please amend line 30 on page 59 as follows:

[[debenzylation/]]deacetylation. The reaction mixture was cooled to ambient temperature